THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) There is no confirmed report.

(b) A letter written apparently by Wassan Singh in which it is mentioned that the Chinese have promised to do something has been recovered.

(c) There is no information.

Import of Non-essential Items

3507. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
KUMARI SAYEEDA KHATUN:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to curb import of non-essential items in view of sharp growth of imports compared to comparatively low growth in exports during first two months of current financial year; and

(b) if so, the particular items whose imports are to be restricted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) The Import Policy is kept under constant review to curb non-essential imports and necessary modifications are made from time to time keeping in view the changing situation.

Export of electronics and electrical goods

3508. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA:
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that electronics and electrical goods worth more than Rs. 300 crores are being currently exported per year in the form of components and in assembled forms;

(b) if so, what is the percentage of these goods exported both in private and public sectors during the last two years; and

(c) what are the main items which have earned the country the highest foreign exchange and what incentives are being given to this trade for the export of electronics/electrical goods for the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The main items of exports include electric storage batteries, conductors and cables, power generation, transmission and switching equipment, electrical appliances, instruments, electronic, components control instrumentation, professional electronic equipment, consumer electronic items and computer software. The exports consist of components and assemblies made out of these components from both the Public and Private Sector. Data is not, therefore, as such maintained in regard to exports exclusively from each Sector.

The incentives which have already been extended to this trade include the facility of import replenishment Licence, Cash Compensatory Support, Duty Drawback, Direct Tax benefits besides duty free imports of capital goods and production inputs under the Scheme of Export Processing Zone and 100 per cent Export Oriented Units. Duty Free import of inputs is permitted under the scheme of advance licensing scheme. Special schemes have been formulated to encourage the export of computer software permitting the import of hardware at concessional rates of import duty, exemptions from the MRTP Act and unified clearance procedures for projects.